W.i.t.c.h

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Goodbye!

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“Every goodbye calls for preparation, but most times, life takes us by surprise . . .”

this page only: scan & image editing by MoonCloud

THE STORM THAT SHOOK KANDRAKAR ENDED JUST MOMENTS AGO!

HEAVY DROPS OF RAIN HAVE WASHED AWAY ALL TRACES OF NERISSA AND HER KNIGHTS OF REVENGE.

ONCE AGAIN, THE GUARDIANS HAVE WON.

BUT FOR ONE OF THEM, ANOTHER BATTLE IS STILL TAKING PLACE. A SILENT, SECRET STRUGGLE...

...AND SHE STILL DOESN'T KNOW IF SHE'LL COME OUT OF IT VICTORIOUS.

I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT US A LOT, CORNELIA!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

I PROMISED YOU AN ANSWER IF I CAME OUT OF THE BATTLE WITH NERISSA ALL IN ONE PIECE!

CALEB, I...

NO, CORNELIA! DON'T SAY ANYTHING!

I JUST NEED YOU TO LISTEN TO ME!

WELL? WHAT ARE THEY SCHEMING UP?

THEY'RE TALKING, IRMA, JUST TALKING! OF COURSE YOU CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING FROM UP HERE!

IRMA! HAY LIN!

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT MOMENT FOR CORNELIA, AND WE'VE GOT TO RESPECT THAT!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

WHAT? WE WEREN'T DOING ANYTHING WRONG!

EXCEPT EAVESDROPPING! GET AWAY FROM THERE RIGHT NOW!

I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT US A LOT...

YOU'VE ALREADY SAID THAT!

YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I CARE ABOUT YOU, CORNELIA! YOU KNOW WHAT BRINGS US TOGETHER...

...AND YOU ALSO KNOW THE PAIN WE'VE SUFFERED!

THAT PAIN IS OVER, CALEB! PHOBOS... NERISSA... NONE OF THE PEOPLE WHO'VE HURT US CAN HARM US ANYMORE!

WELL, I'VE THOUGHT IT OVER AND I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I'M GOING BACK TO MERIDIAN, CORNELIA, AND FOR YOUR OWN GOOD... NO, FOR BOTH OUR SAKES, I'M NOT GOING TO ASK YOU TO COME WITH ME!

YOU'RE... YOU'RE LEAVING ME! BREAKING UP WITH ME. DUMPING ME WITHOUT GIVING ME ANY SAY IN THE MATTER!

TRY TO UNDERSTAND! YOU AND I ARE JUST TOO DIFFERENT!

NO, I DON'T UNDESTAND! WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO ME LIKE THIS? WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THESE THINGS?

SCANNED BY ALFAIRY

FACE THE FACTS! LOOK BACK ON EVERYTHIING THAT'S HAPPENED TO US! IS IT RIGHT FOR US TO GO ON LIVING LIKE THIS?

IT TOOK YOU THIS LONG TO FIGURE THAT OUT?

YOU'RE FINALLY UP FROM YOUR EMOTIONAL HIBERNATION?

OR DID YOU START THINKING DIFFERENTLY WHEN I SAVED YOU? WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND SO FAST?

I HAVEN'T CHANGED MY MING ABOUT US! WHAT I FEEL FOR YOU IS STILL ENDLESS AFFECTION!

AFFECTION? IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL IT? IT'S A SHAME THAT LOVE IS SOMETHING ELSE!

I'M SORRY, CORNELIA! I DIDN'T WANT TO OFFEND YOU...

IT SURE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT! YOU'VE EXPLAINED PERFECTLY WELL WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO SAY!

...I'M SO CONFUSED!

BUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WASN'T ANY MORE CONFUSING IN THE BEGINNING THAN IT IS NOW!

WHEN IT BEGAN, I WAS SURE ABOUT HOW I FELT FOR YOU CORNELIA!

BUT THEN I FOUND OUT THAT THERE WAS ALSO ANOTHER GIRL!

WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

SCANNED BY A FAIRY

I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU! THIS... THIS ISN'T WHAT YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE! I FELL IN LOVE WITH SOMEBODY WHO DOESN'T EXIST!

SO THAT'S THE PROBLEM, HUH?

OR SHOULD I SAY, IS THIS THE PROBLEM?

YOU SEE, CORNELIA? THERE ARE TOO MANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US! TOO MANY CONTRASTS!

YOU'LL SEE! WE'RE MAKING THE RIGHT DECISION!

YOU MADE THAT CHOICE ALONE! NOBODY ASKED ME ANYTHING!

CORNELIA...

I'M DISAPPOINTED, CALEB! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DIFFERENT, BUT I WAS WRONG! YOU'RE... YOU'RE A COWARD!

STAY AWAY FROM ME! I DON'T NEED YOU TO HUG ME!

I'M NOT GOING TO CRY, CALEB! AFTER ALL, NOTHING'S HAPPENED!

IT'S JUST GOODBYE!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

SCANNED BY
A. FAIRY

"EVERY GOODBYE CALLS FOR PREPARATION, BUT MOST TIMES LIFE TAKES US BY SURPRISE... MOST TIMES, BUT NOT FOR EVERYONE..."

I'M READY, ORACLE!

COME WITH ME TO THE HALL OF THE CONGREGATION THEN! THE ELDERS OF KANDRAKAR WOULD LIKE TO SAY GOODBYE TO YOU!

...AND TIME CAN'T ALWAYS SUCCEED WHERE WE FAIL!

CORNELIA DIDN'T UNDERSTAND YOUR DECISION, DID SHE?

OH, TIME HEALS ALL!

OCCASIONALLY, TIME IS ENTRUSTED WITH TASKS THAT ARE TOO DEMANDING...

ORACLE, IT WAS A DIFFICULT DECISION AND...

OH, DON'T TAKE THAT AS A PERSONAL CRITICISM, CALEB!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

WHAT I SAID GOES FOR ME, AS WELL!

I HEARD THAT YOU WON'T BE ALONE ON THE JOURNEY HOME! YOU'LL BE TAKING THE NURSE GALGHEITA WITH YOU!

IT'S STRANGE TO HEAR HER REAL NAME AGAIN!

FOR A LONG TIME, IN ORDER TO PROTECT ELYON, SHE LIVED FAR AWAY FROM METAMOOR AS THE HUMAN CALLED MRS. RUDOLPH.

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

I HOPE THAT YOUR PEOPLE WILL GIVE HER THE WELCOME SHE DESERVES!

I'M CERTAIN THAT HER LOYALITY AND SACRIFICES WILL BE GIVEN THE HIGHEST HONORS!

AND ARE YOU READY TO BE GIVEN A HERO'S WELCOME?

IT WOULD BE AN UNMERITED PRIVILEGE, ORACLE!

GUARDIANS! I'M ENTRUSTING YOU WITH CALEB! HE IS NO LONGER THE HERALD OF KANDRAKAR, AND IS ONCE AGAIN A FREE BEING!

YOU WILL ACCOMPANY HIM TO MERIDIAN ON HIS LAST JOURNEY!

TODAY, I'D RATHER ACCOMPANY A TRUCKLOAD OF SKUNKS!

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO MAKE?

I DO, SIR!

I'D LIKE TO BE EXCUSED FROM THIS TASK! MY FRIENDS WILL DO JUST FINE WITHOUT ME!

BUT IT'D BE HAPPY TO GO BACK TO HEATHERFIELD TO HELP MRS. RUDOLPH!

THIS IS AN UNUSUAL REQUEST! GUARDIANS ALWAYS TRAVEL TOGETHER AS A GROUP!

I KNOW, BUT IT'S A RULE FOR WHICH WE CAN MAKE AN EXCEPTION, TIBOR! YOUR WISH IS GRANTED, CORNELIA!

MAYBE I OWE YOU GIRLS AN EXPLANATION!

THERE'S NO NEED, CALEB! WE'VE ALREADY FIGURED IT OUT!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

YOU GUYS ARE MAD AT ME, AREN'T YOU?

WHY BOTHER ASKING? IF IT WERE UP TO ME, I'D KICK YOU BACK TO MERIDIAN!

I HOPE YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'VE DONE, AND THAT YOU WON'T FIND YOURSELF REGRETTING IT ONE DAY!

I HOPE SO TOO, WILL

I, TOO, HAVE TRIED TO SEARCH HIS HEART, BUT IT WAS WRITTEN THAT THIS IS HOW IT WOULD END!

YOU... YOU KNEW WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN BETWEEN CALEB AND CORNELIA?

WHO CAN SAY THEY TRULY KNOW? I WATCH, I LISTEN, I REFLECT AND...

THAT'S IT...

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

THAT'S ENOUGH!

!

WE'RE SICK AND TIRED OF BEING TREATED LIKE THIS! WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR ACTING THIS WAY!

GUARDIAN!

NO, TIBOR! LET HER AIR THE GRIEVANCES THAT HAVE BUILT UP IN HER HEART!

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM, WILL?

MY FRIENDS AND I ARE TIRED OF BEING TREATED LIKE PAWNS IN YOUR PLANS!

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, SIR, YOU ARE THE PROBLEM!

THE TRUTH HAS BEEN KEPT HIDDEN FROM US FAR TOO OFTEN! WE'RE HAPPY TO SERVE KANDRAKAR AND WE'RE PROUD OF OUR POWERS!

WAY TO GO! A REAL LEADER!

BUT WE DEMAND TO BE TREATED LIKE ADULTS!

HAY LIN!

SORRY! THAT JUST SLIPPED OUT!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

SIR...

EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT, TIBOR! I'M GOING TO MY CHAMBERS, I'M VERY TIRED!

MY RESPECTS, GUARDIANS!

SLEEP WELL, ORACLE!

LIKE THEY SAY, YOU CERTAINLY DIDN'T BEAT AROUND THE BUSH!

I GOT CARRIED AWAY, DIDN'T I? I JUST COULDN'T HOLD BACK!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

THE ORACLE IS REALLY UNBEARABLE SOMETIMES! JUST TOO MUCH I'D SAY...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY IT TWICE, IRMA!

ARE THE ELDERS TALKING BAD ABOUT US? THEY'RE GIVING US SUCH STRANGE LOOKS!

THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT YOU, BUT WITH RESPECT! NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER HAPPENED BEFORE!

SEEING THE ORACLE WALK AWAY LIKE THAT WITHOUT REPLYING TO YOUR CRITICISM WAS SOMETHING NEW FOR US!

I SAY YOU SHOULD STOP BY MORE OFTEN! LIFE GETS PRETTY BORING AROUND HERE SOMETIMES!

HEE! HEE! HEE!

IT'S YOUR TURN, GUARDIANS! AS SOON AS GALGHEITA GETS HERE, YOU CAN LEAVE!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT RIGHT AWAY!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

SEE YOU SOON, YAN LIN!

SEE YOU TOMORROW, GUYS! I'LL SEND MRS. RUDOLPH OVER AND GO STRAIGHT TO BED!

WE'LL SAY HI TO ELYON FOR YOU, OKAY?

YEAH... AND TELL HER I MISS HER LIKE CRAZY!

GOOD LUCK, CORNELIA!

FZAP

SCANNED BY
A. FAIRY

!

HUH? WHO...
WHO ARE YOU?

AM I...
DREAMING?

YES,
YOU'RE
JUST
DREAMING!

AREN'T YOU COLD
UNDER THAT?

YEAH, REALLY COLD...
BUT OLD RAY IS
USED TO IT!

TELL ME, RAY,
DO YOU BELIEVE IN MAGIC?

IN MAGIC? OF COURSE NOT!

YOU REALLY SHOULD, RAY!

EEEEEEK!

SCANNED BY A FAIRY

WHO... WHAT ARE YOU? A FAIRY?

MORE OR LESS...

HERE'S YOUR NEW HOUSE! IT'S ALL YOURS!

THANKS... BUT WHY DID YOU DO THIS FOR ME?

BECAUSE TONIGHT I FELT LIKE IT! BUT THIS IS AN ACT OF LOVE, TOO! SLEEP WELL, FRIEND!

"NOW YOU HAVE A HOME AS WELL!"

TOC TOC TOC

CORNELIA?

YES, MRS. RUDOLPH! IT'S ME!

THEY'RE WAITING FOR YOU IN KANDRAKAR! ARE YOU READY TO GO HOME?

I... IT'S ALL I'VE EVER WANTED! I JUST NEVER IMAGINED IT WOULD HAPPEN SO SOON!

WHERE ARE YOUR SUITCASES?

NO BAGS! NOTHING FROM MY LIFE ON EARTH WOULD BE OF USE TO ME IN MERIDIAN! I'M ONLY TAKING ONE THING...

... THIS!

I'M GOING TO MISS THE SCHOOL SO MUCH!

DO YOU WANT TO SEE IT ONE LAST TIME BEFORE YOU LEAVE?

I'D BE DELIGHTED TO, BUT DIDN'T YOU SAY THEY WERE WAITING FOR ME?

OH, THEY CAN WAIT A LITTLE WHILE LONGER!

"THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT CAN'T BE PUT OFF!"

FOLLOW ME!

SHA-WAAAA

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

GO ON! I'LL WAIT FOR YOU HERE... AND TAKE YOUR TIME!

I JUST WANT TO SAY GOODBYE FOR THE LAST TIME!

THEY WERE SUCH HAPPY YEARS!

I WON'T BE LONG!

BUT NOW I HAVE TO GO! IT'S TIME TO RETURN TO WHERE I CAME FROM!

AND TO RETURN TO MY REAL APPEARANCE!

GOODBYE, MRS. RUDOLPH!

THERE IS NO MRS. RUDOLPH ANY LONGER! NOW THERE'S ONLY GALGHEITA!

THEN GOODBYE, GALGHEITA!

WZZZZ

IN A MOMENT YOU'LL BE FAR AWAY! CLOSE YOUR EYES...

"...AND OPEN THEM ONLY WHEN YOU GET TO KANDRAKAR!"

DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TRIP, MA'AM?

HERE ALREADY?

CORNELIA DIDN'T CHANGE HER MIND! SHE SAID SHE'D BE STAYING IN HEATHERFIELD, AND SHE STUCK TO HER WORD!

YOU SHOULD KNOW HER BY NOW! OUR FRIEND IS ONE TOUGH COOKIE!

THE PASSAGE LEADING TO MERIDIAN IS READY TO WELCOME YOU! FAREWELL, GUARDIANS!

SEE YOU SOON, TIBOR!

WHEN YOU NEED A HAND, JUST WHISTLE! BUT NOT TOO SOON, PLEASE!

I LONG FOR THE DAY WHEN I'M ACCUSTOMED TO YOUR INFORMAL WAYS!

I KNOW I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU THIS, BUT I'M PROUD OF YOU ALL! OF WHO YOU ARE AND EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE!

THE GUARDIANS AND THEIR TRAVELING COMPANIONS SLOWLY DISAPPEAR IN A DAZZLING BEAM OF LIGHT!

A LIGHT THAT LEAVES THE FORTRESS IN THE CENTER OF INFINITY, HEADING TOWARDS ONE OF THE THOUSAND WORLDS PROTECTED BY KANDRAKAR.

SCANNED BY A FAIRY

THE LIGHT RACES PAST DISTANT WORLDS, PASSING BY UNIMAGINABLE PLACES AND DIMENSIONS...

...AND ARRIVES AT THEIR DESTINATION AFTER A FEW SHORT MOMENTS.

IN MERIDIAN.

SHA - WAAAM

SCANNED BY

LET'S TRY THAT AGAIN, YOUR HIGHNESS!

BUT THIS TIME I WON'T SHOW THEM TO YOU IN ORDER! WHAT LETTER IS THIS?

COULD I HAVE A HINT?

I BEG YOU PARDON?

A HINT! ON TV GAME SHOWS THEY ALWAYS GIVE HINTS! IT'S LIKE A HELPING HAND!

BUT I IMAGINE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN A GAME SHOW, HAVE YOU?

YOU IMAGINE CORRECTLY, YOUR MAJESTY!

ELYON!

UM... PARDON THE INTRUSION, YOUR HIGHNESS, I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE BUSY!

WHAT IS IT, MOM... UM... CAPTAIN MIRIADEL?

SCANNED BY A FAIRY

THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON IN THE CITY THAT YOU REALLY SHOULD SEE!

WE'LL CONTINUE OUR LESSON AFTER A SHORT BREAK, THEN!

UM... I'VE GOT THE IMPRESSION IT WON'T BE SO SHORT!

?

ELYON!

GUYS!

THIS SURE IS A SURPRISE! WHAT'S GOING ON? IS THERE A PARTY?

WELL. WE JUST GAVE A RIDE TO A COUPLE OF PEOPLE!

AND IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE PRETTY POPULAR AROUND THESE PARTS!

CALEB! MRS. RUDOLPH!

YOUR HIGHNESS!

LIGHT OF MERIDIAN!

CALEB! I'M SO HAPPY YOU'RE SAFE! PHOBOS TURNED YOU INTO A FLOWER. HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO BREAK HIS SPELL?

IT'S A LONG STORY, ELYON!

AHH! LET ME HUG THE TWO OF YOU! IT'S SO WONDERFUL TO HAVE BOTH OF YOU BACK!

OH, I'M IN NO HURRY! THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS YOU HAVE TO TELL ME ABOUT!

SO, WHERE'S CORNELIA?

CORNELIA... HAD TO GO BACK TO HEATHERFIELD, BUT SHE SAYS HI!

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BACK HOME? IS HER FAMILY OKAY?

YES, ELYON, THEY'RE ALL FINE!

BUT NOTHING HAPPENED, RIGHT?

RIGHT! NOTHING AT ALL!

SCANNED BY A FAIRY

I NEVER IMAGINED I'D BE SO HAPPY TO SEE MY MATH TEACHER AGAIN! CAN I CALL YOU GALGHEITA?

YOU HAVE TO! IT'S AN ORDER, IF I'M ALLOWED TO SAY THAT!

NOW THAT I'M GROWN UP, I DON'T NEED A NURSE ANYMORE, BUT I'D BE HONORED TO HAVE YOU AS MY PERSONAL TUTOR!

ONLY YOU CAN SAVE ME FROM THE HEARTLESS GOVERNESS THEY FOUND FOR ME!

I THINK THERE'S ROOM FOR BOTH!

SIGH!

NOW YOU'VE DONE IT! THERE'S NO TURNING BACK NOW, ELYON!

IT'S CALEB!

THE PEOPLE OF MERIDIAN ARE CHEERING FOR YOU, CALEB!

!

CALEB'S RETURNED!

CALEB!

MAY I, YOUR HIGHNESS?

THEY'RE ALL YOURS, CALEB!

CALEB!

VATHEK, OLD FRIEND!

HEY, YOU BIG BRUTE! LEAVE A BIT OF HIM FOR US!

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO! IT'S MY TURN NOW!

WHAT INGRATES! UP UNTIL TODAY I WAS THEIR FAVORITE!

YOU THINK I SHOULD START WORRYING ABOUT MY POPULARITY?

IF I WERE YOU, I'D LOCK HIM UP IN PRISON FOR A CENTURY OR TWO!

THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA! PEOPLE QUICKLY FORGET!

SHAME ON YOU! YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN KID ABOUT CERTAIN THINGS!

WHO WAS KIDDING?

I SURE WASN'T!

I HOPE YOU CAN GET TO STICK AROUND FOR A WHILE!

WE'RE REALLY SORRY, ELYON, BUT WE HAVE TO GO!

BUT WE'LL COME BACK SOON, I PROMISE! AND NEXT TIME CORNELIA WILL BE WITH US!

YOU'RE LEAVING JUST LIKE THAT? AREN'T YOU GOING TO SAY GOODBYE TO CALEB?

NO. WE'LL LET HIM ENJOY THE CELEBRATION IN HIS HONOR!

SAY GOODBYE TO HIM FOR US!

"WE'RE SURE HE'LL UNDERSTAND..."

SHA-WAAAM

VOILÀ!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

IT'S REALLY OVER, ISN'T IT?

IT'S SO HARD TO BELIEVE! I'M TOTALLY EXHAUSTED! I CAN'T WAIT TO GO BACK HOME AND SINK INTO MY PILLOW!

I HATE TO WAKE MY ASTRAL DROP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!

I'M NOT SORRY IN THE LEAST!

I'M TEMPTED TO SEND MINE OFF TO SCHOOL IN MY PLACE TOMORROW!

SO IT AT YOUR OWN RISK! THEY PROBABLY WOULDN'T BE HAPPY ABOUT IT IN KANDRAKAR!

LET'S TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TIME WE HAVE LEFT TO SLEEP, THEN! GOODNIGHT, GUYS!

SWEET DREAMS, WILL!

YOU BET! NOW THAT NERISSA'S GONE, MY DREAMS WILL CERTAINLY BE SWEET... AND RELAXING!

HA! HA! HA! GOOD NIGHT!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

IT'S SO STRANGE TO SEE THE CITY DESERTED LIKE THIS! I'VE NEVER HEARD SUCH SILENCE IN HEATHERFIELD BEFORE!

IT'S NICE, BUT A BIT SCARY, TOO! LUCKILY, I'M ALREADY HERE AND...

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

OH, NO! THE LIGHTS ARE STILL ON AT HOME!

A POLICE CAR IN FRONT OF THE GATE! WHAT'S IT DOING HERE?

I HAVE A TERRIBLE FEELING...

HEY! HOLD IT, YOUNG LADY!

NO... NO... NO...

THE DOOR IS OPEN! IF... IF ANYTHING'S HAPPENED...

...I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF! NEVER!

HEY! LOOK WHO'S HERE!

SCANNED BY A FAIRY

WILL!

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

END OF PART ONE.

SCANNED BY
A. FAIRY

AS IDENTICAL, AS TWO DROPS OF WATER... AN ASTRAL DROP IS MORE THAN A SIMPLE COPY.

IT IS A TANGIBLE THINKING DOUBLE CREATED TO FILL IN FOR THE ORIGINAL WITHOUT RAISING DOUBTS OR SUSPICIONS AMONG THOSE WHO LIVE WITH IT.

ASTRAL DROPS ARE FAITHFUL OBEDIENT BEINGS. AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT THEY WERE UNTIL TONIGHT!

AFTER WILL DISCOVERED THAT HER ASTRAL DROP HAD DISAPPEARED.

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? DO YOU REALIZE IT'S TWO IN THE MORNING?

WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT SHE'S BACK HOME SAFE AND SOUND, MRS. VANDOM!

SERGEANT CARLTON, I'M SORRY TO HAVE CAUSED YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE!

NO TROUBLE AT ALL! WE WERE JUST DOING OUR JOB!

AND IF I CAN GIVE YOU ADVICE, DON'T BE TOO HARD ON YOUR DAUGHTER!

WELL, I CAN'T GIVE YOU MY WORD ON THAT! IN ANY CASE, THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!

GOOD NIGHT!

MOM! I CAN EXPLAIN!

EXPLAIN? WHAT IS THERE TO EXPLAIN?

WHEN I CAME IN TO WISH YOU GOODNIGHT, YOUR ROOM WAS EMPTY!

I ASKED YOU A QUESTION, WILL!

THERE WAS A COBALT BLUE CONCERT AT A CLUB AND... AND... SO...

YOU SAID YOU'D BE STAYING IN AND READING ALL NIGHT LONG, AND INSTEAD YOU SNEAKED OUT LIKE A THIEF! WHERE WERE YOU?

THE TRUTH WOULD BE DIFFUCULT TO EXPLAIN AND IMPOSSIBLE TO BELIEVE!

SCANNED BY A.FAIRY

SO YOU THOUGHT IT'D BE A GREAT IDEA TO GO WITHOUT TELLING ME! WITHOUT ASKING OR MY PERMISSION, WHICH YOU PROBABLY WOULD'VE GOTTEN PRETTY EASILY!

I DID IT WITHOUT THINKING, MOM!

I'M DISAPPOINTED, WILL! I THOUGHT I COULD TRUST YOU! THERE USED TO BE PROBLEMS BETWEEN US, BUT I THOUGHT WE'D CLEARED THEM ALL UP!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I WAS WRONG!

STUPID ASTRAL DROP! SHE'S RUINED EVERYTHING! EVERYTHING!

IT'S NOT MY FAULT, MOM! BUT I CAN'T TELL YOU ABOUT IT!

SPARE ME THE DRAMA, WILL, AND GO TO BED! IT'S LATE AND YOU'VE GOT SCHOOL TOMORROW!

I'M REALLY SORRY!

YOUR LITTLE PRANK IS GOING TO COST YOU DEARLY! YOU'RE GROUNDED, AND YOU CAN'T USE YOUR CELL PHONE EITHER!

I'LL KEEP THE SIM CARD FOR THE TIME BEING! SINCE YOU'LL BE SPENDING A LOT OF THE TIME IN THE HOUSE, YOU'LL ONLY BE USING THE TELEPHONE!

!

CLUNK

I'M TRAPPED, DORMOUSE! THIS IS A HOPELESS SITUATION!

WHAT HAPPENED TO MY ASTRAL DROP? SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO STAY HERE UNTIL I GOT BACK!

WHY DID SHE LEAVE? AND MOST IMPORTANTLY WHERE DID SHE GO? SHE LEFT WHEN MOM WAS STILL AT HOME, WITHOUT MAKING ANY NOISE! BUT THINKING ABOUT IT...

...SHE MIGHT HAVE SIMPLY DISAPPEARED! OF COURSE!

I CREATED HER WHEN MY POWERS WERE STILL WEAK! MAYBE THE ASTRAL DROP JUST DISSOLVED EARLIER THAN PLANNED!

BUT IF THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED, IT MEANS THE OTHERS HAD THE SAME PROBLEM! WHAT A TOTAL MESS!

IT'S TOO LATE TO MAKE A ROUND OF PHONE CALLS NOW! TOMOTTOW AT SCHOOL I'LL FIND OUT...

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

WHAT HAPPENED!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "NOTHING"?

I MEAN JUST WHAT I SAID! NOTHING HAPPENED!

OUR ASTRAL DROPS WERE ALL IN THEIR PLACES!

IT'S TRUE! WE REINTEGRATED AND NOBODY NOTICED A THING!

FACE THE FACTS, WILL...

...YOUR ASTRAL DROP RAN AWAY FROM HOME!

WHAT A DISTASTER! DO YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS MEANS?

SOMEWHERE OUT THERE, THERE'S A PERSON WHO'S IDENTICAL TO ME. TALKS LIKE ME, AND HAS A PART OF MY MEMORIES!

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

...SOMEBODY WHO'S NOT ME!

THE CRAZIEST PART IS THAT I CAN'T EVEN GO TO THE POLICE TO FIND HER!

BUT YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON US!

RIGHT! WE'LL SPLIT UP AND SEARCH HEATHERFIELD! YOUR ASTRAL DROP CAN'T HAVE GOTTEN VERY FAR!

BUT I CAN'T HELP YOU! MY MOM GROUNDED ME!

EVEN BETTER! IF YOUR ASTRAL DROP GOES BACK HOME, YOU'LL BE THERE WAITING FOR HER!

DRIIIIN

GET TO CLASS, PEOPLE! THE BREAK'S OVER!

IT'S AGREED, THEN! I'LL SEE YOU OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL...

"...TO LAUNCH OPERATION RECOVERY."

I LIKE "OPERATION RECOVERY"! IT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING SERIOUS!

ACTUALLY, THIS IS SOMETHING SERIOUS!

I WISH I COULD STICK AROUND AND GO WITH YOU, BUT I REALLY CAN'T!

WELL, YOU COULD REPLACE YOURSELF WITH ANOTHER ASTRAL DROP!

YOU'RE REALLY WITH IT TODAY, IRMA! YOU'RE EVEN DUMBER THAN USUAL!

IN ANY CASE, THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, GUYS!

WILL!

IT'S YOUR MOM!

SHE'S CME TO PICK ME UP! NOW SHE'S REALLY GOING TO LET ME HAVE IT!

WERE YOU AFRAID I WOULDN'T GO BACK HOME? WHY DID YOU HAVE TO WAIT FOR ME OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL? I'M NOT SIX YEARS OLD ANYMORE!

YEAH! IT'S A SHAME YOU BEHAVE AS THOUGH YOU WERE!

SCANNED BY A FAIRY

LISTEN, MOM... I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT...

DON'T STRAIN YOURSELF, WILL! THERE'S NO USE TRYING TO STRAIGHTEN THINGS OUT!

IT JUST GETS WORSE AND WORSE! EVERY DAY... EVERY WEEK THAT PASSES, EVERYTHING SEEMS TO GET MORE DIFFICULT!

SCANNED BY A. FAIDY

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING TO ME LATELY HAS COMPLICATED MY LIFE EVEN MORE!

NERISSA... CASSIDY... HE RISING START FOUNDATION! SUDDENLY I DISCOVERED THAT NOTHING AROUND ME WAS THERE BY CHANCE!

I WISH I HAD A NORMAL LIFE, BUT AT THE SAME TIME, I KNOW I COULD NEVER GIVE UP THE MAGIC OF THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR!

ALL I NEED NOW IS SOMEONE I CAN TALK TO!

BUT THE ONLY PERSON I COULD TALK TO DOESN'T WANT TO TALK TO ME!

THERE'S FOOD READY FOR YOU IN THE FRIDGE, WILL!

LUCKILY, I STILL HAVE ME FRIENDS... AND MATT!

I'LL TELL HIM ALL ABOUT IT SOONER OR LATER! I FOUND THE COURAGE TO DO IT AT THE SCHOOL PARTY* BUT NERISSA MANAGED TO RUIN EVERYTHING!

*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #20

MATT!

SCANNED BY
A. FAIRY

!

MY PHOTOS OF MATT! THEY WERE IN HERE AND NOW THEY'RE GONE!

I'VE GOT THIS NAGGING FEELING...

MOM WOULD NEVER HAVE TAKEN THEM FROM ME!

IT MUST'VE BEEN MY ASTRAL DROP! BUT WHY?

14:00

"HEATHERFIELD, HOW BIG IS THIS CITY, ANYWAY?"

"MAYBE IT'S ENORMOUS OR MAYBE IT'S MICROSCOPIC. IN ANY CASE, WHAT DOES IT MATTER?"

"I HAVEN'T STOPPED WALKING FOR A SECOND. I'M NOT TIRED THOUGH."

"I JUST WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE!"

"GO FAR AWAY."

"FREE FROM ALL THE SUFFERING."

SCANNED BY FA

NOTHING! NOBODY'S SEEN HER HERE EITHER!

I SAY WE'RE WASTING OUR TIME! HER DOUBLE COULD BE ANYWHERE!

WHY WOULD THE ASTRAL DROP HANG OUT AT THE SAME PLACES THAT WILL DOES?

BECAUSE IT HAS THE SAME MEMORIES AS WILL! THAT'S WHY!

HOW CLEVER! I'M ALWAYS AMAZED WHEN I SEE A BIT OF GRAY MATTER BEHIND ALL THAT BLOND HAIR!

YOU SHOULD TRY GROWING SOME YOURSELF, IRMA! THAT WAY, YOUR MOUTH MIGHT EVEN STAY ATTACHED TO YOUR BRAIN WHEN YOU TALK!

LET'S KEEP GOING, GUYS! AND KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!

AS SOON AS YOU SENSE SOMETHING, JUST WHISTLE!

DON'T WORRY! ALL OF MY MENTAL POWERS ARE IN ACTION!

IF THAT ASTRAL DROP IS IN THE AREA, YOU'LL BE THE FIRST ONES TO KNOW!

ANY NEWS FROM HAY LIN?

SHE SAID SHE'D CATCH UP WITH US ONE WAY OR ANOTHER! THE LITTLE LADY HAD AN ENGAGEMENT SHE COULDN'T MISS!

AND SHE DIDN'T EXPLAIN?

NOPE! IT'S A TOTAL MYSTERY! SHE'D BETTER HAVE A GREAT EXCUSE FOR NOT BEING HERE!

HER POWERS WOULD'VE COME IN HANDY, BUT I THINK WE CAN DO IT ON OUR OWN.

CORNELIA LOOKS SO DETERMINED! SHE'S ACTING AS IF SHE'S TOTALLY FORGOTTEN ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED WITH CALEB!

IT'S OBVIOUS SHE'S JUST FAKING IT, BUT SHE'S DOING A GREAT JOB!

SEEING AS HOW THAT SLUG CALEB TREATED HER, SHE SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY REGRETS!

OKAY, WE'RE HERE!

IT'S GRANDFATHER OLSEN'S PET SHOP!

ANOTHER ONE OF THE PLACES ON OUR LIST, SINCE WILL HELPS OUT HERE A COUPLE AFTERNOONS A WEEK!

HELLO, MR. OLSEN!

HI THERE, GIRLS! TO WHAT DO I OWE THIS SURPRISE? PROBLEMS WITH NAPOLEON??

IS SHE HAVING PROBLEMS? NATURALLY, SHE DOESN'T TELL ME ANY OF HER SECRETS, BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO HAVE EAGLE EYES TO SEE THAT SOMETHING'S WRONG! YESTERDAY SHE DROPPED BY SIX TIMES!

...AND SHE'S BEEN WANDERING AROUND OUTSIDE SINCE THIS MORNING, WITHOUT EVEN COMING INTO THE SHOP!

NOO, IT'S NOT ABOUT MY CAT! TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WE WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT WILL!

WILL! MAYBE IT'S YOU WHO CAN TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT HER!

!

I TRIED TO TALK TO HER BUT SHE RAN OFF WITHOUT SAYING A WORD!

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SAW HER?

LESS THAN AN HOUR AGO! BUT HONESTLY I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

I... I FEEL A PRESENCE!

SCANNED BY A. FAIOV

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HER?

THAT'S A REALLY GOOD QUESTION! WOULD YOU MIND ASKING A DIFFERENT ONE, MAYBE?

I SEE HER!
SHE'S BEHIND THAT TREE!

GOODBYE, MR. OLSEN! YOU'VE BEEN VERY KIND!

THE ASTRAL DROP...

...SHE'S HERE!

?

!

LET'S GET HER!

THEY'RE LOOKING FOR ME! THEY WANT TO STOP ME!

IT'S WILL'S FRIENDS! THEY WANT TO TAKE ME BACK TO HER, BUT THEY'LL NEVER MANAGE TO!

STOP!

MAN, IS SHE FAST! CAN I MAKE HER SLIP IN A PUDDLE?

ARE YOU CRAZY? NO MAGIC IN PUBLIC, IRMA!

THEY WON'T CATCH ME! THEY WON'T CATCH ME! THEY WON'T...

!

YOU'RE CORNERED, BABE!

DON'T BE AFRAID OF US! WE DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU!

YOU'RE LIARS!

HNNF!

UGH!

QUICK! DON'T LET HER GET AWAY!

GET DOWN FROM THERE...

!

!

RRIIIP

SCANNED BY A. FAIRY

THESE ARE... PICTURES OF MATT!

DON'T TOUCH THEM!

SCHAF

!

DON'T TOUCH THEM!

EASY! TAKE IT EASY!

YOU OKAY, IRMA?

YEAH... I'M FINE!

LET ME GO, PLEASE! DON'T TAKE ME BACK TO HER!

DON'T TAKE ME BACK TO WILL! I DON'T WANT TO DISAPPEAR AGAIN! I... I... I WANT TO LIVE!

LIVE? DON'T BE RIDICULOUS! YOU'RE JUST A REPLICA!

THAT'S NOT TRUE! I BREATHE! I THINK! I HAVE FEELINGS, JUST LIKE YOU DO!

IF I GO BACK TO WILL, SHE'LL MAKE ME DISAPPEAR FOREVER, AND I... I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN!

WHO'S SHE TALKING ABOUT?

THE BOY I LOVE.

MATT OLSEN.

!

EVER SINCE HE KISSED ME, I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HIM!*

BUT NOW HE'S BETRAYED ME!

I HATE MATT BUT AT THE SAME TIME, I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT HIM! IF YOU CAN UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL, HELP ME! I'M SO UNHAPPY!

*IF YOU READ W.I.I.C.H. #4 YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THIS, TOO...

LET ME GO! I'LL TALK TO MATT ONE LAST TIME, AND THEN I'LL DISAPPEAR FOREVER! I PROMISE!

COLORED BY A. FAIRY

THIS IS CRAZY! AN ASTRAL DROP IN LOVE? THERE WASN'T ANYTHING ABOUT THIS IN THE SCRIPT!

BUT THAT'S HOW IT IS, TARANEE...

STOP! IF YOU'RE ABOUT TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THE UNCONTROLLABLE POWER OF LOVE, SAVE IT!

!

WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM HERE WITH TRAGIC PROPORTIONS!

BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN HER AND MATT!

YESTERDAY... HE INVITED ME OUT FOR A LONG BIKE RIDE! WE TALKED ALL AFTERNOON...

...BUT I COULDN'T FIND THE COURAGE TO TELL HIM WHAT I REALLY FELT FOR HIM!

I SAID GOODBYE WITHOUT TELLING HIM HOW MUCH THAT KISS MEANT TO ME, EVEN IF IT HAPPENED BY ACCIDENT!

SO YOU RAN AWAY FROM HOME TO TELL HIM THAT?

I TRIED CALLING HIM, BUT IT WAS USELESS SO I SNEAKED OUT! I KNOW I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT!

SCANNED BY A. FAN

WILL PAID DEARLY FOR YOUR LITTLE STROKE OF GENIUS! SHE'S IN BIG TROUBLE NOW, THANKS TO YOU!

I KNOW AND I'M REALLY, REALLY SORRY... BUT I HAD TO TALK TO MATT!

SO WHAT HAPPENED?

I WALKED AROUND THE CITY FOR HOURS! HE WAS BUSY REHEARSING WITH HIS BAND!

I CAUGHT UP WITH HIM TO SURPRISE HIM...

...AND I SAW IT ALL!

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

HE WAS WITH A GIRL, AND HE HAD HER IN HIS ARMS!

MAYBE THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE WHO SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ALLL THIS, DON'T YOU THINK?

OF COURSE! WHY, DID YOU WANT TO TELL HER YOURSELF?

NOT ON YOUR LIFE! SHE IS GOING TO TELL HER!

ME?

THIS MEANS YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LET ME GO, RIGHT?

WE CAN'T, WILL...

CAN I CALL YOU WILL?

SO... WHO WAS THE GIRL?

I DON'T KNOW! I'D NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE!

I'M SORRY, WILL!

NO... I'M THE ONE WHO'S SORRY FOR YOU!

BUT YOU DIDN'T DESERVE THIS DISAPPOINTMENT! NEITHER OF US DESERVED IT. BUT MAYBE IT'S BEST THAT IT ALL TURNED OUT THIS WAY!

THAT KISS... THE PICTURES... AND ALL THOSE PHONE CALLS TO MATT! I FOUND THEM LISTED ON MY CELL PHONE, YOU KNOW...

AFTER ALL, I'M JUST A GOOD FRIEND TO MATT!

I THOUGHT A REFLECTED IMAGE COULDN'T SUFFER, BUT I WAS WRONG!

THE THING THAT HURTS THE MOST IS KNOWING THAT I'M JUST A REFLECTION!

WHERE DOES AN ASTRAL DROP GO WHEN SHE'S NOT HERE?

I CAN'T SAY, WILL! IT'S A KIND OF ELSEWHERE THAT MIGHT NOT EVEN EXIST. SOMEPLACE INSIDE OF YOU, MAYBE!

I MEAN... MAYBE I'M JUST ONE OF YOUR DREAMS!

MAYBE IT'S TIME TO JOIN BACK TOGETHER NOW!

MY MEMORIES ARE GOING TO BECOME YOURS! YOU WON'T LIKE THEM THIS TIME!

I'M READY...

WITHOUT A SOUND OR A COMPLAINT, THE ASTRAL DROP GOES BACK INTO WILL. THEY OVERLAD UNTIL THEY BECOME ONE...

THE REINTEGRATION IS COMPLETED.

PET SHOP

olsen's

THE MEMORIES RACE BY.

THEY'RE SENSATIONS, MOMENTS...

...AND SIGHTS.

OH, WILL! I DON'T... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!

THERE'S NOTHING TO SAY! THAT'S JUST HOW THINGS GO...

THESE... UM... THESE ARE YOURS!

THROW THEM OUT IF YOU WANT! I DON'T WANT TO SEE THEM ANYMORE!

AS FAR AS BOYS ARE CONCERNED, THIS DOESN'T SEEM TO BE OUR LUCKY DAY, DOES IT?

WELL... IT JUST MEANS THINGS WILL GET BETTER!

YOU GOT THAT RIGHT! ESPECIALLY BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T GO ANY...

THANK YOU, IRMA! IT'S NICE TO KNOW WE CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON YOUR CONSOLATION...

ALL OF THIS SHOULD GIVE US FOOD FOR THOUGHT! UNTIL TODAY WE ASSUMED OUR ASTRAL DROPS WERE EMPTY CREATURES BUT NOW WE KNOW WE WERE WRONG!

YOU'RE RIGHT! FROM NOW ON, WE SHOULD LEARN TO USE THEM ONLY WHEN WE REALLY NEED TO!

YOU CAN'T GIVE UP LIVING YOUR OWN LIFE TO LEND IT TO SOMEONE ELSE!

POOR ASTRAL DROP!

WHEREVER SHE IS RIGHT NOW...

SCANNED BY A F

"...I JUST HOPE SHE'S SLEEPING PEACEFULLY..."

"...AND WITHOUT MEMORIES."

RIIIING RIIING

DOORBELL!

I HEAR IT! IT MUST BE MY MOM!

RIIIINNG RIIIING

I'M COMING! I'M COMING! MAN!

WHY CAN'T SHE USE HER KEYS INSTEAD OF ABUSING THE POOR DOORBELL? COMING!

TA-DAAAA!

!

SORRY I'M LATE, GUYS, BUT MY APPOINTMENT LASTED LONGER THAN PLANNED...

MY DENTIST IS THE METICULOUS TYPE...

HEY! THOSE ARE...

...BRACES!

AND WHAT FABULOUS BRACES! I DESIGNED THEM MYSELF!

I FIGURED YOU DID!

THEY'RE... GREAT!

THIS WAY, EVERY TIME I SMILE I'LL REMEMBER I'M A PART OF W.I.I.C.H.!

GREAT IDEA! THAT'S THE KIND OF THING WHAT COULD SLIP YOUR MIND!

BUT WOULDN'T TYING A KNOT AROUND YOUR FINGER BE A BIT MORE SENSIBLE?

CUT IT OUT, IRMA! I THINK THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL!

PLUS, BEST OF ALL, I WON'T GET CROOKED TEETH! HA! HA! HA!

LONG LIVE W.I.T.C.H. THEN!

"...AND MAY THE FUTURE BE HAPPIER AND MORE PEACEFUL THAN EVER!"

SCANNED BY A. FAURY

END OF EPISODE 23.